1965 Short

Honourable Administrator, Mrs. van Niekerk, Charge d' Affairs, Mrs. Molyviatis, Mr. Mayor, Mrs. Golding —guests.

We are indeed indebted to you all this evening for attending our Annual Ball and in particular, a great indebtedness has accrued to the Honourable Administrator who has kindly undertaken to patronise not only our event but also our goal.

There is no doubt that we are aware of our local community's goal, namely the erection of a local Hellenic Community Centre which has today become an absolute necessity due to the daily augmentation of our community.

The fact that out of a total of all immigration to South Africa since 1924, 40% has taken place in the past three years, shows what a moral and social predicament each and every foreign language group is facing in the Republic.

Amongst these are the Greeks of Alberton, whose total has been considerably augmented in view of the town's industrial growth and hence has become an automatic settlement area for immigrants.

It is therefore our duty as Greek speaking South African citizens and Greek speaking residents who have made South Africa their new homeland, to enable the newcomers to make a social re-adjustment with the minimum of difficulty. This in the long run will enable us to create a citizen who will be an asset to our country.

The fact that the Greeks are establishing a community centre here in Alberton and elsewhere in the Republic, is proof sufficient that the Greek is not hesitant in planting deep roots in this country which will not easily be eradicated by anyone, and in fact, it is a sign of strength and determination, which will ensure that white society and civilization will not and shall not be exstinguished from this land of ours.

I might mention that our organisation is not a very old one — it is a mere thirty months of age, but it has combined all its forces in order to achieve its goal and so be a service to our society. — Moreover, with the support of all our friends we should be able to realise our dream very soon. Not only this —but as loyal Albertonians we are making it quite clear that this hall will not be for the Greek community only, but will be for the use of all Albertonians.

However —I trust, not only do I trust, but feel assured that this will be a most enjoyable evening—but hope and anticipate that we can have a similar evening in a years time — but of course with the proviso that it is held in our own hall. — Thenkyou.

Sace or reason why we shall not let tonights affair form fait would be bestirities whi every South Sprian Sprian Sprian to Mobile It should be breating and or we shall should be should b

Dit is vir my 'n besondere voorreg om u almal vannaand hier te kan verwelkom, in besonder Sy Edele, die Administrateur en Mev. van Niekerk, wie ten spyte van al sy verpligtinge, ons vannaand met sy teenwoordigheid vereer.

U weet almal wat die doel is van die Alberton Griekse Gemeenskap.— Ons voel eintlik verplig om hierdie Griekse sentrum so spoedig op te rig, aangesien daar vandag soveel Grieke hierheen immigreer. Dit is die plig van elke Grieks-sprekende Suid Afrikaanse burger sowel as die ander Griekse inwoners wie al Suid-Afrika hulle tuiste gemaak het om hierdie nuwe immigrante so spoedig moontlik en met so min ongerief moontlik, in ons gemeenskap, Grieks sowel as Suid-Afrikaans, waar daar in die verlede so 'n goeie samewerking was, te assimileer.

Ons eitlike doelstelling is om te sorg dat hierdie nuwe immigrante 'n aanwins vir ons land sal wees.

Ons wil graag ook ons waardering uitspreek teenoor sy Edele, Die Burgemeester, Golding en sy raad vir hulle ondersteuning en dit sodoende moontlik gemaak het om ons doel te bereik. Soos u almal weet, is die grond waarop die sentrum gebou gaan word, geskenk deur die Stadsraad van Alberton. Dit alleen is al 'n bewys van die goeie betrekkinge tussen die twee gemeenskappe. Ek wil graag meld dat hierdie saal nie net gebruik sal word deur die Griekse Gemeenskap nie maar ook deur die hele gemeenskap van Alberton.

Hiermee wens ek u almal 'n aangename aand toe en ek is seker dat ons aanstaande jaar weer so vriendskaplik in ons eie saal sakbyeenkom Bjølge Lviletgrynen 1966 feal

Αγαπητοί μας ἀδελφοί "Ελληνες

Εἴμεθα κατενθουσιασμένοι πού ἤλθατε νά ἐνώσωμεν την χαρά σας μέ την χαρά μας, καί νά ἀπολαύσωμεν μαζί την διασκέδασίν μας.

Είναι πολύ εὐχάριστες τέτοιου εἴδους συγκεντρώσεις μεταξύ μας, διότι ξυπνοῦν τά Ἑλληνικά μας αἰσθήματα πρός ἀλληλοεκτίμησιν καί σεβασμόν, πού δυναμώνουν τόν ἡθικόν ἔλεγχον γενικώς τῶν πράξεῶν μας.

"Οπως γνωρίζωμεν όλοι, ό σκοπός μας έδῶ εἰς την Νέα μας Πατρίδα εἶναι ἡ οἰκονομικήν και ἡ ἡθικήν οἰκογενεικήν μας εὐημερία.

'Ο πολιτισμός της ἀγαπημένης μας Πατρίδος, εἶναι το καλλίτερο διανοητικό Πανεπιστήμιον τοῦ Κόσμου...

Μᾶς δίδει διανοητικά ὅπλα, ψυχολογικῶς, ἀρίστης συμπεριφορᾶς, εἰς το Τέλειον...

Καυχώμεθα πού και οί ξένοι χρησιμοποιοῦν εἰς τὰ Πανεπιστήμια των, τό Ἑλληνικόν πνεῦμα...

Έπίσης θα ἐπιθυμούσαμεν - ἐάν εἶναι δυνατόν - ὅπως ὁ σεβαστός Τύπος βοηθα ἐνθαρρυντικῶς τούς διαφόρους Ἑλληνικούς ὀργανισμούς, διά πά δύνανται οἱ ὑπεύθυνοι νά ἐκτελοῦν μέ ἐνθουσιασμόν τούς σκοπούς των, πρός εὐημερίαν καί πρόοδον τῶν Ἑλλήνων ἀδελφῶν μας.

'Αγαπητοί μας

Έλπίζομεν ὅτι σύντομα θά κτίσωμεν ἰδικήν μας αἴθουσα διασκεδάσεως, εἰς τό οἰκόπεδο τό ὁποῖον εἶχε τήν εὐγενήν καλοσύνην νά μᾶς δωρίση, ἡησεβαστήν Δημαρχία τοῦ "Αλμπερτον, ὁπότε θά εἴμεθα εἰς θέσιν, νά σᾶς περιποιηθῶμεν ὅπως πραγματικῶς ἐπιθυμεῖτε.

Καί τώρα εὐχόμεθα πᾶσαν χαράν καί διασκέδασιν.